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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/888,855	06/25/2001	Steven Allen Crandall SR.	23189-2	1986

24256 7590 06/17/2005

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EXAMINER
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LIM, KRISNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/888,855

Applicant(s)

CRANDALL ET AL

Examiner

Krisna Lim

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 10-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 2153

1. Claims 1-8 and 10-24 are still pending for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
3. Claims 1-8 and 10-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strong [U.S. Patent No. 6,167,523]. This reference has been used in the previous Office Action.
4. Strong discloses (see Figs. 1-4) the invention substantially as claimed. Taking claim 1 as exemplary claim, the reference discloses a method of validating field of a form in a client-server transaction (e.g., see the abstract, Figs. 2-7), utilizing executable instructions (inherent in Form data validation and processing program 255 of Fig. 2), comprising: a) receiving a form a plurality of field on a server (HTML Form 245 in Web server 205 of Fig. 2, 425, 435 and 437 of Fig. 4, col. 3 (lines 23-24), col. 5 (line 46) to col. 6 (line 42)); b) receiving from a client input data associated with one of the fields of the form (e.g., see col. 3 (lines 22-32), col. 5 (line 46) to col. 6 (line 42)), wherein the input data is received on the server prior to receiving input data for other fields of the form; c) and validating the input data on the server once received within the one field of the form, wherein the validating occurs for the one field prior to validating data for the other fields of the form and prior to the user providing data in other fields of the form (e.g., see Form Data Validation and Processing Program 255 of Fig. 2, Form 280 of Figs. 2 and 3A, 3B, 3C, Fig. 4, col. 3 (lines 22-32), col. 5 (line 46) to col. 6 (line 42)).

Art Unit: 2153

While Strong discloses that the entire form is submitted and then data are validated field by field until the entire form is done, Strong does not explicitly mention that the field by field validation is done prior to the entire form is submitted. It would have one obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that such difference would have been a matter of programming choice because it is matter of where or when to valid the input data.

5. As to claim 2, Strong anticipated the step of notifying the client as soon as an error is detected within one of the fields of the form (e.g., see steps 410, 435 and 445 of Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 41-43).

6. As to claim 3, Strong anticipated the step of identifying a specific resolution (send an error message, col. 3, line 5, Fig. 7) if an error is detected and communicating the resolution immediately to the client.

7. As to claim 4, Strong anticipated the step of processing the form (e.g., see 450 of Fig. 4) after each field has been properly completed by the client.

8. As to claim 5, Strong anticipated the form is associated with a shipping request (ordering product, col. 1, line 17).

9. As to claim 6, Strong anticipated the communication between the client (200) and the server (205) occurs over the Internet (210) (e.g., see Fig. 2, col. 4, lines 32 and 48).

10. As to claim 7, Strong anticipated the form (280) is displayed within a browser (215) (e.g., see Fig. 2, col. 1, lines 22-23).

11. As to claims 8 and 10-16, they are similarly to the rejected claims 1-7 with the additional features which are also taught by Strong. For example, Strong further discloses the validation operation comprises the step of checking the input data for the

first portion of the form for proper format (e.g., see 425 of Fig. 4, and indicating any error in the format before permitting the client to provide additional data associated with the remainder of the form (e.g., see 430 of Fig. 4); b) suggesting a correction to the client to remedy the error if present (e.g., see suggestion of Fig. 7); c) linking profile to fields of the form (e.g., see Name field, Age field, DOB, etc. of Fig. 3C). Thus, claims 8-16 are also rejected as mentioned in paragraphs 4-10 above.

12. As to claims 17-24, they are similarly to the rejected claims 1-8 and 10-16 with the additional features which are also taught by Strong: a) user's account (550 of Fig. 6); b) establishing a user's history; c) creating a customized report (e.g., see requirement format in step 425 of Fig. 4 and Form Format of Fig. 7) associated with the user's account or the user's history steps b) and d) using a single selection by the client initiates the bypass step and submits a completed shipping form for processing (e.g., using registry key identifier or sub-key identifier to locate or identified each of different form, col. 6, lines 37-42).

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 and 10-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In remark, the applicant argued that Strong does not disclose that input data is received on the server prior to receiving input data for other fields of the form, or that input data is validated on the server once received within the one field of the form, the validating occurring prior to the user providing data in other field of the form.

In reply, while Strong discloses that the entire form is submitted and then data are validated field by field until the entire form is done, Strong does not explicitly mention that the field by field validation is done prior to the entire form is submitted. It would have one obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that such difference would have been a matter of programming choice because it is matter of where or when to valid the input data.

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The references are cited in the Form PTO-892 for the applicant's review.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krisna Lim whose telephone number is 571-272-3956. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess, can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

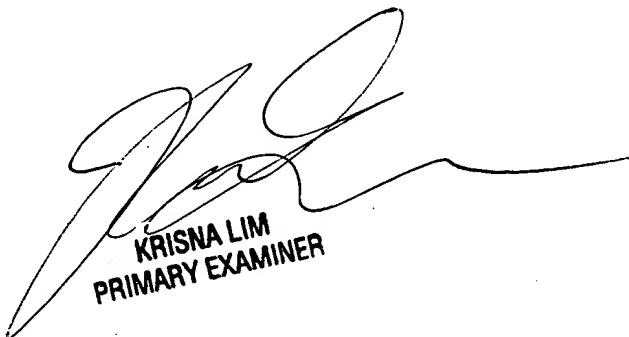
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 2153

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KI

June 3, 2005



KRISNA LIM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER